

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 98-037-C - ORDER NO. 98-419

JUNE 8, 1998

IN RE: Joint Application of Network Long Distance, Inc. and Eastern Telecom International Corporation for Approval of a Merger.	) ) ) )	ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW & APPLICATION
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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Motion for Expedited Review of the Application in this Docket.

Network Long Distance, Inc. and Eastern Telecom International Corporation (the Applicants) filed a Joint Application for Approval of a Merger on January 21, 1998. The Commission's Executive Director instructed the Applicants to publish a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the affected areas, one time. The Commission has received affidavits showing that the Applicants followed the instructions of the Executive Director. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were filed. The Applicants have also filed verified testimony to support the Application.

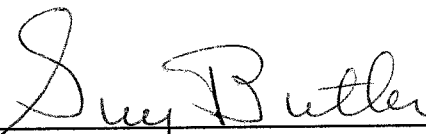
Accordingly, the Applicants state that considering the nature of the transaction, which is a wholly owned subsidiary merging with an into its parent company, and the fact that no opposition to the Application has been filed, the transaction should be approved, based on the record and without the necessity of a hearing.

We grant the Motion for Expedited Review, based on the factors as stated above. S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-310 (Supp. 1997), however, calls for “due hearing” before such merger may be approved. Considering the present transaction, though, we hold that the Commission’s weekly agenda meeting of June 2, 1998, wherein this matter was considered and the verified testimony proffered satisfies the “due hearing” requirement of the statute.

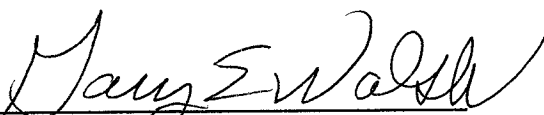
A review of the entire record of this case convinces us that the Application is in the public interest and should be granted. We hold that this Commission shall be notified upon completion of the merger. Further, since Eastern Telecom International Corporation is merging into Network Long Distance, Inc., its parent company, we find that the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity originally granted to Eastern Telecom International Corporation on July 17, 1992 in Docket No. 91-131-C must be cancelled.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Executive Director  
(SEAL)